

TROY (N.Y.)  
TIMES-RECORD

Circ.: e 40,588

Front Edit Other  
Page Page Page

APR 26 1961

Date:

# MR. KENNEDY TAKES THE BLAME

The attempt to pin the blame for failure of the Cuban invasion on former President Eisenhower has been nipped in the bud. President Kennedy says that all responsibility for the decision rests on his shoulders.

There is no other course for the President to take. To do otherwise would show that there is weakness in the White House. Doubtless the plans for the invasion were begun during the Eisenhower administration. But the military action took place more than three months after Mr. Kennedy took office. Hence the decision to go ahead rested in his hands.

If there is one obvious weakness, it exists in the fact that the Central Intelligence Agency has the authority both to assess political situations and recommend action. Data which involves military operations should be placed in the hands of those trained in tactical matters and the final decision should be up to them.

The attempt to place the blame on Mr. Eisenhower follows the old pattern of seeking a scapegoat for a failure. We might have expected Congress to launch an investigation but Mr. Kennedy has beaten Congress to the punch by ordering his own two-pronged probe of the entire operation.

Some good should come from the failure. Placing blame accomplishes little. The least that should be done is to ferret out the weak spots and take corrective measures so that the same sort of fumbling does not occur again.